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QUARTERLY JOURNAL  
OF THE  
STATISTICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

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DECEMBER, 1852.

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*On the Productive Industry of Paris.* Communicated by the late  
G. R. PORTER, ESQ., F.R.S., *Secretary to the Board of Trade.*

[Read before the Statistical Section of the British Association at Belfast,  
2nd September, 1852.]

THE successive Governments of France have, for a long time, kept on foot establishments charged with the collection of statistical information, and have been accustomed to publish, from time to time, the result of the labours thus bestowed. It would not be possible, with any presumable degree of accuracy, to determine the amount of influence which the knowledge thus acquired has exercised over the governments or legislatures of that country. To all outward appearance that influence has not been great, since the changes of system that might reasonably have been expected to follow from a better acquaintance with the condition of the various classes of the people have not been experienced; such changes as have occurred being clearly assignable to political, apart from scientific, causes.

However this may be, we may reasonably hope that a time will come in which the knowledge of facts, collected at various times, and under different circumstances, may be allowed to produce its legitimate fruits; and when the labours of those who have gone before may, in matters of statistical research, as well as in other branches of knowledge, show the way to their successors for reforming and improving, wherever needed, the faulty legislation which may have impeded the progress, and interfered with the well-being, of the great mass of the people.

The system of centralization for which France has long been, and still is, remarkable, and which has mainly confined to its metropolis whatever administrative talent existed in the country, has apparently been the cause of so little statistical information relating to the people generally having been rendered available; and may further be the reason of that little having presented so slight a claim to the confidence of men accustomed to the examination and the use of such researches. This remark, however, cannot properly be made to apply to those researches when their object should be confined to the facts and condi-

tions existing in Paris, where the ability to turn such knowledge to the best account would be found. But here another difficulty would present itself, in the magnitude of the undertaking which aspires to display, under all their aspects, and in a manner to promise utility, the multiform interests of so vast a community.

At various times the attention of the central government and of the municipal authorities of Paris has been directed to this important object, and it may be thought worthy of remark that the want of knowledge in this direction has been felt chiefly, and has then led to attempts at a remedy, after periods of public commotion, when the working classes are most subject to distress, and, consequently, when their condition most inspires fears on the part of rulers. In 1791 the municipality of Paris endeavoured to obtain the requisite information by inciting individuals to the inquiry, and calling for treatises which should point out the best means for remedying the then existing distress among the working classes. The object thus sought was not attained. Numerous essays were written on the subject, not any of which supplied useful information concerning the industry and trade of the city, the only one of those essays deemed deserving of remark having been a dissertation in favour of freedom of commerce.

After the rupture of the peace of Amiens, and when the enormous expenses caused by the war which Napoleon carried on against so many of the great military powers of Europe, had occasioned very deep distress among the industrial classes of France, and chiefly in its metropolis, more than one effort was made to arrive at an accurate acquaintance with the condition of the various industries of Paris, but without arriving at any result that could lead to the adoption of any beneficial measures. At one time the Minister of the Interior invoked, to that end, the aid of the Chamber of Commerce; but the points upon which he sought to be informed were so many, and the means of gaining such information would have called for such vast and expensive exertion, that the body addressed could not be led to embark in the undertaking. In 1807 the attempt was renewed from the same quarter and on a less extended scale, and the Chamber of Commerce was requested to make a return of the divisions of occupations to be found in various branches of production. The Chamber readily undertook the task, but the report which it made contained nothing precise in regard to the information sought, and the estimate it gave of the value produced, and the number of workmen employed upon different manufactures, were purely hypothetical.

The "*Tableau de l'Industrie Française*," by M. Chaptal, published in 1819, was compiled from returns collected throughout France in the time of the Empire. The object of the author was to show what progress had been made, since the revolution, in the application of science to the arts of life. His work contains but little statistical information, and has nothing in it that is special to Paris.

After the revolution of 1830 the various manufacturing and commercial interests of France were subjected to a severe crisis, from the evils of which the Government was very desirous of rescuing them. To this end a circular was addressed by the President of the Ministry of Commerce and Colonies, on the 4th of April, 1831, to the different Chambers of Commerce, containing, among others, the following inquiries:—

1. What was the more or less prosperous condition of manufacturing establishments and of trade at the beginning of 1830?
2. What changes have been experienced since the revolution of July?
3. What permanent and what accidental causes may be assigned to account for the evils experienced?
4. What means are supposed to be within the power of Government for removing, or, at least, for diminishing the effect of those causes?

The Chamber of Commerce of Paris, in order to ground its answers to these questions on the best information, called before it the most distinguished men engaged in the principal branches of trade and manufactures. The opinions given upon the greater part of the questions were nearly unanimous. They were, that since 1816, and during the peace that had been enjoyed, every branch of industry had experienced a marked development—that consumption had increased by reason of the reduction of price at which manufactured goods could be procured, but that, in some branches, production had outstripped demand—that political troubles, and the apprehensions that consequently seized upon capitalists, having put a stop to credit, parties who had thus over-produced could not avoid failure. In the means proposed for remedying the evil, a like degree of unanimity was shown. It was declared to be necessary to restore security, and thereby, confidence; to repress disorder in the streets, and to avoid everything that could lead to a foreign war. As regarded Paris, especially, it was urged that a measure which had long been in agitation should be favourably disposed of. This was the establishment of a Customs' *entrepôt*, or warehousing system, in the city; and this was accordingly adopted. Lastly, the attention of the Government was drawn to the advantages that would follow from an extension of foreign trade, through a revision of the existing tariff, and a change in the colonial system.

In the following year additional questions were proposed relating to the number of workmen actually employed in each branch of industry, compared with the number that had been so employed before July, 1830, and also relating to the rate of wages earned. To neither of these inquiries does it appear that any precise answers were returned. The Chamber of Commerce limited itself to the notice of a general tendency towards improvement, and to the mention of those branches of industry in which that tendency was the greatest.

Further attempts were made to procure the needed information in 1834, 1839, and 1841, but with so small a measure of success as to prove all but useless.

The work of M. De Chabrol, "*Recherches Statistiques sur la Ville de Paris*," contains some interesting documents; but these having been compiled at different dates, and embracing besides only portions of the subject, are not of any value as displaying the condition of industry, at any period, in the metropolis. It does not appear in what manner the information which is given was collected, nor what precautions were taken for properly estimating its correctness. The work, indeed, exhibits rather the produce of an experiment than the result of any regularly formed plan.

The industrial crisis which followed close upon the revolution of

February, 1848, was probably rendered more severe in its effects and more lasting in duration, by reason of the injudicious remedies employed for its counteraction. If, through previous inquiries, the means had been afforded for estimating, with any approach to correctness, the immensity of the matter with which it was then ignorantly attempted to grapple, and for comprehending all the varying circumstances and conditions of the classes with whose interests and habits it was sought to interfere, it is hardly to be conceived that any body of public functionaries could have allowed themselves to fall into the grievous errors which marked the proceedings of the Provisional Government of France towards the working classes in Paris, during the first days of the Republic in 1848. The evils resulting from those proceedings were not slow to show themselves, and as early as the 25th of May a decree of the National Assembly was passed, ordering that an inquiry, embracing the condition of agricultural and manufacturing labourers, should be instituted throughout the whole of the territory of the Republic—that this inquiry should be organised in each chief place of the canton, under the direction of the *Juge de Pair*:—that this functionary should be assisted by a commission or committee, composed of equal numbers of workmen and employers—that each description of industry should be represented in this commission by a delegate (either workman or employer,) who should be elected by his peers. The election of delegates was to take place within a week from the promulgation of the decree, and the inquiry, the execution of which was entrusted to the prefects of departments, was to be finished within a month, saving that in Algeria and the Department of the Seine two months were allowed. The ultimate direction of the inquiry was specially reserved to a Committee formed of members of the National Assembly.

This inquiry produced no useful result. A report of the Committee of the Assembly, made in December, 1850, eighteen months after the time fixed for making the returns, showed that among the 2,847 cantons into which France is divided, only 2,177 had made any report, and that it was most difficult to draw any precise statistical fact from such reports as were made. Nothing whatever was done in obedience to the decree by the Department of the Seine.

These slight notices are offered with the feeling that it is always useful to know of failures, and especially when the want of success can be traced to its more probable cause. In the various attempts which have been noticed, the cause of failure appears to have been the assigning of the task—one of no ordinary magnitude—to hands inadequate, from various causes, to its proper performance, loaded as the functionaries whom it was sought to employ already were with a multiplicity of affairs. It was at length seen, that to compile for the whole country a minutely detailed statistical display of its various interests and occupations, that should be worthy of credit, by means of any machinery which it was within the power of the Central Government of France to set in motion, was quite impossible. But it was thought that the same impossibility did not stand in the way of a body in whose province the work seemed more properly to fall. The Chamber of Commerce of Paris, recognising the importance of such a work at all times, and its especial value in the changing conditions of the country to which, of late years,

France has been subjected, appointed, after the revolution of 1848, a Committee of its members to conduct the inquiry, with the object of showing, by means of facts, without entering upon the discussion of principles or doctrines, the extent and the money-value of the various branches of industry carried on within the capital, the numbers employed in each branch, both as masters and as workmen,—the rates of wages,—the periods and durations of the dead seasons affecting different branches, and, comparing one year with another, to show the effects of a great political crisis upon the prosperity of the industrious classes. The members of that Committee, from whose report the foregoing remarks are chiefly derived, have well performed the task. The persevering industry of three years has enabled that body to produce a volume, for which, it is believed, no parallel could be found in any country. This volume, printed in the large quarto size, occupies, including the necessary tables, 1,460 pages, of which not one can be considered superfluous.

It will not be expected, or wished, that on this occasion, much beyond the ascertained results of the inquiry shall be offered. That inquiry was confined to the ascertaining of facts illustrating the productive industry of the capital, so far as the same is contained within the limits subject to the payment of octroi duties, *i. e.*, of duties collected by the municipal authorities upon articles consumed. Paris is the centre of the various commercial interests of France; the various great joint-stock associations of the country have there the chief seat of their direction; there, too, all the chief manufacturers throughout France have depôts of goods, and the commercial firms engaged in foreign commerce have their counting-houses. To collect the statistics of these various interests, if even it had been possible to do so, would have been to collect and exhibit, to a great extent, the commerce and industry of the greater part of the country. It was therefore determined to limit the task to the ascertaining and exhibiting of the manufacturing industry of the capital; in other words, to leave aside all that related merely to distribution, and to embrace only those matters which call for the industry of man in order to give to materials a different form, and to impart to them an additional value.

In the performance of the work thus undertaken, it was felt that if, as on former occasions, information had been sought only from the principal manufacturers in each branch of industry, nothing but vague and general information could have been collected. It was therefore determined to seek the needed information from every person working on his own account, whether the employer of workmen under him or not; and this plan was pursued so minutely, that, for example, the workmen who having capital sufficient to buy a few ounces of gilt copper, converted the same into false jewellery of the humblest kind, was required to contribute his quota to the general sum of information.

The inquiry was begun in the second half of the year 1848, when the facts relating to the productions and the trading, during the year 1847, of every person to whom application was made, were sufficiently recent to be within the memory of each. Future inquiries made of the same parties, brought to light the amount of production and the circumstances affecting the industry in which they had individually been employed through the following year, 1848. The members of the

Chamber of Commerce express themselves, in their report, satisfied that they succeeded in inspiring those of whom they sought information with such a degree of confidence in their object, as made them willing to answer the inquiries in good faith, it being understood that in no case was the name of any individual to be divulged.

The inquiries were mostly comprehended under the following heads:—

The nature of the manufacture.

The importance of the manufacture in 1847, and the reduction of the value experienced therein in 1848.

The number of workmen employed, whether stationary in the factory or in the dwelling-house of the employer, or in their own single chamber.

The number of workmen not stationary, that is, employed sometimes in one and sometimes in another locality, such as masons, carpenters, and the like.

The number of boys from 6 to 12 and from 12 to 16 years old.

The number of girls at the same ages.

The number of apprentices comprised among the foregoing, and the general conditions of apprenticeship.

The number of unemployed workpeople in the four months of March, April, May, and June, 1848.

The daily earnings of men, whether paid in fixed wages or by the piece.

The same particulars regarding women, children, and young persons not apprentices.

The time and duration of the dead season experienced in different branches of industry.

The general habits and modes of life of workpeople; and, as regards textile fabrics, their nature and the number of looms in use.

Following this plan, a complete census was taken of the labouring and manufacturing population, distinguishing the individuals in classes, according to their station, whether as employers or employed, and also distinguishing those who worked for their own account without employing others at wages. To insure the completeness of the returns, every house in the city, which comprises more than 32,000, was visited. Paris is divided, for the purposes of municipal government, into twelve *arrondissements*, and each *arrondissement* is subdivided into four quarters, an arrangement of which advantage was taken in pursuing the inquiry, which was entrusted, under proper control, to paid agents. Each one of these agents was sent forth in the morning, with verbal and written instructions, to the streets and houses contained in a list furnished to him, together with blank forms, in which were to be entered the name and residence of the person questioned and the answers obtained.

The instructions with which the agents were furnished were very minute and precise; and although they were, doubtless, well calculated,—as indeed is shown by the result—to answer the end proposed, there would be little use in repeating them here, or, indeed, in offering them as a pattern for the conducting of the like inquiries elsewhere, under social arrangements so widely different as those of Paris are to such as exist in any other great city.

The information thus obtained was subjected to a very close examination, a task which was facilitated by the extent of the work, since this afforded better means for comparing one district or industry with another. If, in the course of the examination, it was made to appear that any serious differences existed between several returns where similarity was to be expected, a fresh examination on the spot was always made, and to help the members of the Committee in this important part of their labour, a certain number of returns applying to each branch of industry were, in the first instance, subjected to the most careful investigation. In point of fact, it was found necessary to subject a large proportion of the individual returns made by the agents to this revision.

By means of the plan described of collecting the required facts according to the divisions for municipal government of the city, a complete topographical chart of Parisian industry was obtained. It is now accurately known where the different branches of manufacture are chiefly located, and the number of workmen who inhabit the different arrondissements, with their rates of wages, and other circumstances attending on their condition,—information of no small importance during times of political trouble, or under any other kind of public calamity.

It will be seen, on referring to the tables hereafter given, that the money-value of the products of industry, in proportion to the number of persons employed, varies greatly in the different quarters of the city, which fact must not, however, be taken in itself as an indication of the condition generally of the inhabitants of the different quarters. Thus, in the ninth arrondissement, the number of employers and workmen respectively, 3,153 and 10,273, (together 13,426,) produced in the year 1847 articles valued at 1,596,152*l.*, or less than 120*l.* for each, while in the second arrondissement 6,459 employers and 33,998 workmen produced goods valued at 7,106,748*l.*, or more than 175*l.* per head. The first-mentioned of these arrondissements is in the centre of the city, near to the Hotel de Ville, and is chiefly occupied by retail shops; and such manufactures as are carried on are mostly the products of individual industry; two-thirds of the number set down as employers working either alone or having only one person to help them. The second arrondissement, where only two-fifths are thus set down, occupies a part of the city more favourable for manufacturing industry, and the average value of manufactures to each employer, is double that produced in the ninth arrondissement.

The sixth arrondissement is the principal manufacturing quarter of Paris, in which are chiefly produced the various things comprehended under the general name of "Articles of Parisian Industry." A list of these articles, which are very numerous, is appended to this paper. It will be seen, that in this sixth arrondissement are employed the largest number of workmen, and that the value of the productions, nearly nine and a-half millions sterling, greatly exceeds the value produced in any other of the divisions of the city.

The number of persons who furnished answers to the inquiries of the Committee as working on their own account, was 64,816. The number of workmen employed under them was returned as 342,530, viz., 204,925 men, 112,891 women, 24,714 children and young per-



sons. Of this number 8,141 were said to be not permanently located or employed in Paris; but there is reason for believing that this number is understated. The practice of hiring men to supply a temporary demand for labour in some branches of industry, and particularly in those connected with building, renders it difficult for employers to speak with certainty on the subject.

The 24,714 children and young persons comprised—

16,863 Males	—of whom 1,249 were under 12 years of age,
	15,614 were between 12 and 16 years old.
7,851 Females	—of whom 869 were under 12 years of age,
	6,982 were between 12 and 16 years old.

Of the whole number 19,078 were apprentices; but these did not comprise all who were under that condition, apprenticeship sometimes being continued, as in this country, until the person is of full age. In some cases, where bodily strength is a requisite for the performance of the art to be acquired, the season of apprenticeship does not begin until the person has attained to an age beyond 16, and in such cases the contract is made for only a short period—two, or at most, three years.

Of more than 18,000 apprentices, whose terms of service were ascertained—

247 were bound until they should attain the age of 21.	73 were bound for 6 years.
40 were bound until they should attain the age of 18.	3     "     5½ "
1,419 were bound for an indeterminate time.	1,459     "     5 "
3 were bound for 9 years.	26     "     4½ "
4     "     8     "	4,434     "     4 "
2     "     7     "	228     "     3½ "
	5,482     "     3 "
	336     "     2½ "
	3,501     "     2 "
and the remainder for various periods less than two years.	

666	were provided with board, lodging, washing, and clothing.
379	"     board, lodging, and clothing.
3,087	"     board, lodging, and washing.
6,545	"     board and lodging.
22	"     board and clothing.
370	"     board only.
7	"     lodging and clothing.
1	"     lodging, washing, and clothing.
128	"     lodging only.
1	"     breakfast only.
6,960	"     neither board, lodging, washing, nor clothing.
<hr/>	
18,166	

From these particulars the fact is easily inferred, that the contract of apprenticeship, in many instances, is not considered very binding upon either party; and, as a consequence, it is found that masters, having no certain prospect of deriving advantage from the labour and skill of their apprentices towards the close of their term, are but little disposed to give themselves the trouble of teaching their art at its commencement. Among the whole number above described (18,166), only 242 had paid any premium or apprentice-fee to their masters. On the other hand, 4,731, or more than one-fourth, were in the receipt of

wages from their employers; and among these 2,721 were in the enjoyment of some or all of the advantages mentioned above.

The total value of the manufactures produced within the City of Paris in the year 1847 was ascertained, in the manner already described, to amount to 1,463,628,350*f.*, equal to 58,545,134*l.* sterling, in which amount is included the cost of the materials employed, which, of course, forms a very large proportion of the whole. For example, the 500 butchers, with their 1,429 assistants, are set down as creating a value of 2,995,737*l.*, or 1,553*l.* on the average for each. The average wages of the assistants are given as 3*50f.* per day, which, supposing them to be paid for seven days in each week, amount to 72,822*l.* per annum, thus leaving to each master-butcher 5,845*l.* wherewith to purchase the animals which he slaughters, to defray the expenses of his trade other than wages, and to yield him a profit. Under the regulations of the city, which give the monopoly of this trade to a limited number of persons, the profits are known to be unduly great, so that the goodwill of the business is always saleable for a large sum; but making due allowance for this, it must be evident that a large part of the receipts from his customers must be employed in the purchase of the articles wherein he deals.

It must be evident that a large proportion of the sums received by jewellers and workers in precious metals is derived from the value of the materials which they employ, while those who are engaged in other branches of industry, the materials for which call for but little money outlay, will each receive only a very moderate sum in the course of the year. Laundresses, for example, who have no materials to provide beyond those which may be classed among their trade expenses, acquire yearly on the average, of both employers and assistants, an amount equal to about 35*l.* sterling, or 13*s.* 6*d.* per week, which is divided into not quite 20*s.* per week for the employers, who pay rent and all other expenses, and about half that rate for their assistants.

The average weekly earnings of assistants in twenty-six principal branches of industry in Paris, reckoning that they are fully employed during six days in the week, are as follow, stated in English money:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Tailors .....	0	17	0	Masons.....	0	16	1	Hat-makers .....	1	0	7
Butchers .....	0	16	9	Locksmiths .....	0	18	4	House Painters....	0	18	10
Jewellers .....	1	7	3	Linen Garment- }	0	16	2	Printers .....	1	1	4
Bakers .....	0	16	9	makers .....				Glove-makers ....	0	19	7
Shoe-makers ....	0	14	2	Sugar Refiners....	0	15	6	Milliners ....	0	17	4
Carpenters and }	1	3	6	Curriers .....	1	0	5	Laundresses .....	0	10	6
Joiners .....				Carpet-makers....	1	0	9	Piano and Harp- }	1	3	3
Silversmiths .....	1	3	9	Coach-builders....	0	19	3	makers .....			
Lace-makers ....	0	9	1	Confectioners ....	0	18	8	Artificial Flower }	0	18	1
Cabinet-makers ..	0	17	0	Bronzists .....	1	0	4	makers .....			

These are the average wages of males and females of all ages and degrees of ability. In some branches of industry the range of wages from the highest to the lowest is very wide. Thus tailors receive, according to their proficiency, from 8 francs to 75 centimes daily; butchers and bakers from 7 francs to 1 franc; jewellers, a craft in which the degrees of ability possessed differ very greatly, receive some as high as 15 francs, or 12*s.* per day, while others earn only 1 franc, or less than 10*d.*

In the list just given, it appears that the persons employed in making harps and piano-fortes earn less average weekly wages than carpenters and joiners. This arises from the fact that the *average* ability of the latter is necessarily greater than that of the workmen employed in making musical instruments, among whom some few gain from 10f. to 20f., or 7s. 6d. to 15s. per day, while others receive only 1'25f., or 1s. per day; the wages of carpenters running from 8f. the highest, to 2'50f. the lowest, or from 6s. 6d. to 2s. sterling money. Various explanations might be given which would account for other seeming anomalies in the list, but it is not possible within the limits to which this abstract must be confined to enter more fully into such details. It appeared necessary to give these few words of explanation lest it should be imagined that the inquiry had been conducted without a proper regard to accuracy, or that some error had crept into the abstract now offered. In a general table of wages paid to adult persons engaged in each of the thirteen groups of industrial employment in Paris, and which is given in an Appendix, it will be found that the earnings are these:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Earning less than 60 centimes or 5½d. daily ....	.....	950	950
„ 3 francs or 2s. 4½d. „ ....	27,453	100,050	127,503
„ 5 francs or 4s. „ ....	157,216	626	157,842
Earning more than 5 francs or 4s. „ ....	10,393	.....	10,393
	195,062	101,626	296,688
Paid by the week, month, or year, and be- longing to families of employers .....	9,863	11,265	21,128
	204,925	112,891	317,816

In another table will be found the number of persons, divided into employers and employed, males and females, adults and children, who are engaged in each of the same thirteen groups, together with the value in each group of the finished products given by them to commerce, the whole numbers being—

Employers .....	64,816
Employed, viz., Adult Males.....	204,925
Adult Females .....	112,891
Male Children .....	16,863
Female Children .....	7,851
	<u>342,530</u>
Total.....	407,346

It is calculated that among the 342,530 workmen and workwomen, as many as 186,405 were thrown out of employment during the four months that immediately followed the revolution in 1848. The degree in which this calamity affected employment in each of the thirteen groups, is thus stated by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce:—

	Number of Workmen.		Diminution per Cent.	Diminished Value of Goods pro- duced, per Cent.
	1847.	1848.		
Preparation of Food .....	10,428	8,404	19	34
Building .....	41,603	14,812	64	66
Furnishing .....	36,184	9,832	73	75
Clothing .....	90,064	44,051	51	52
Spinning and Weaving .....	36,685	17,233	53	57
Leather .....	4,573	2,754	40	33
Saddlery, Coach and Harness- making.....}	13,754	7,168	47	46
Chemicals and Earthenwares ...	9,737	5,212	46	45
Metals, Machinery, and Hard- wares .....	24,894	10,408	58	64
Plate and Jewellery .....	16,819	7,163	57	63
Turnery and Baskets .....	5,405	2,905	46	51
Articles of Parisian Industry ...	35,679	17,233	52	53
Paper, Printing, and Engraving	16,705	8,950	46	47
	342,530	156,125	54	54

It will be seen that the political movement of 1848 caused a diminution in the value of articles produced, to the extent of 54 per cent.; the falling-off being in no case less than 33 per cent., or one-third, and reaching in one branch to 75 per cent., or three-fourths. The degree in which each of the thirteen groups was affected was as follows:—

	Amount of productions.		Diminution per Cent.
	1847.	1848.	
	£	£	
Preparation of Food .....	9,074,523	6,032,479	34
Building .....	5,816,507	2,006,802	66
Furnishing .....	5,485,810	1,388,656	75
Clothing .....	9,637,892	4,592,072	52
Spinning and Weaving .....	4,232,739	1,831,319	57
Leather .....	1,670,519	1,120,560	33
Saddlery, Coach and Harness-making	2,094,287	1,124,262	46
Chemicals and Earthenwares .....	2,981,864	1,634,702	45
Metals, Machinery, and Hardwares ...	4,145,264	1,486,628	64
Jewellery and Plate.....	5,393,211	1,986,312	63
Baskets and Turnery .....	819,292	401,424	51
Articles of Parisian Industry .....	5,146,351	2,401,209	53
Paper, Printing, and Engraving.....	2,046,875	1,094,539	47
	58,545,134	27,100,964	54

We find, as might be expected, that the evil fell most heavily upon those branches of industry which minister chiefly to the luxuries and conveniences of life, and lightest upon those employed in providing for its necessities. Building fell off two-thirds, and doubtless would have been more seriously affected, but for the necessity of completing works already in progress. In providing new furniture for dwellings, only one-fourth of the amount expended in 1847 was disbursed in

1848, while even in the articles required for the daily meals of the people, there was a falling off equal to one-third.

The regulations under which the trade of a butcher is carried on in Paris, are such as admit of a pretty minute examination of its circumstances and extent at various times. This trade had been placed under restrictions as regards the number allowed to engage in it, from the time of Philippe Augustus to the revolution. These restrictions were removed in 1791, when the number of butchers in Paris was 230, some of whom had two or more shops in different quarters of the city. From that time until September, 1802, the trade remained perfectly free, but it was then again subjected to limitation. At this time the number of persons allowed to carry it on is 400, but as permission is given to the widows or children of such of them as die to continue the business, the number has for some time been 501. The trade thus privileged with a monopoly is very profitable, so that the sale of a shop which is licensed for the business, usually brings a considerable sum to the retiring owner. By means of the octroi or town duty, which is collected upon all meat sold in Paris, whether slaughtered in the city or brought in killed, the quantity consumed is known with accuracy. It may be worthy of remark, that although for a few months following the revolution in 1848, the octroi duty (about a halfpenny per lb.), was suppressed, no reduction ensued in the price of meat, the retailers assigning as a justification for keeping up the price, the disordered condition of every branch of industry, which deprived them of customers for the skins, horns, tallow, or other offal; so that they were obliged to recover the cost of the animals slaughtered, together with their trade expenses and profits, from the sale of the meat alone.

The sales of the Paris butchers, which in 1847 amounted to 2,995,737*l.*, fell in 1848 to 1,827,400*l.* There were killed in each of those years:—

	1847.	1848.
Oxen .....	82,521	75,163
Cows .....	24,994	19,139
Calves .....	83,580	74,497
Sheep .....	503,117	442,322

The weight was, in 1847, 53,533,097 kilogrammes, or 118,040,478 lbs.; in 1848, 30,334,334 kilogrammes or 66,887,206; and the population of Paris being 945,721 souls, the consumption per head consequently was, in 1847, 125lbs.; in 1848, 70 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

In 1849 the average consumption per head again advanced to 121lbs.; and in 1850 reached 129lbs. These quantities are exclusive of pork and other articles of animal food, known in France under the general name of *Charcuterie*. The quantity of them were—

In 1847....	24,098,621	lbs., equal to 25 lbs. per head.
1848....	16,426,570	„ 17 „
1849....	24,502,304	„ 25 „
1850....	27,321,553	„ 29 „

making the whole consumption of animal food in Paris (exclusive of Irish poultry and game)—

In 1847.....	150	lbs. per head.	In 1849.....	146	lbs. per head.
1848.....	87 $\frac{3}{4}$	„	1850.....	158	„

The difference between 1847 and 1850 may be in part attributed to the increase of population.

Not having in this United Kingdom any octroi duties, there are not any means for comparing the consumption of Paris with that of any of our great cities. An account is indeed kept of the number of animals brought for sale to Smithfield, the (hitherto) great London market; but an undefined portion of these are driven away for the supply of neighbouring towns; while, on the other hand, a great and increasing but unknown quantity of slaughtered meat finds its way to the metropolis for consumption by railways and steam-vessels.

The statement last offered, showing the lessened value of the articles produced in 1848, as compared with the value in 1847, does not afford an adequate view of the intensity of suffering inflicted by the events of February, in the latter year, on the working population of Paris. During the months of January and February, there had been experienced more than the usual degree of activity in trade and manufactures, and again towards the close of the year business began to assume more of its usual appearance, so that many of the 186,000 workmen who were thrown out of employment in the four months from March to June inclusive, again found work. It is stated in the volume whence these particulars are drawn, that the number thus unemployed would have been even greater than it was, but for the sacrifices made by many of the employers, to retain as many workmen as possible in their manufactories.

On the other hand, as is justly stated in the report, we should, in order to form a just idea of the miserable condition of the labouring population of Paris during the four worst months of 1848, add to the 186,405 discharged workmen, a large proportion of the 32,583 persons who in 1847 were found to be working on their own account, either alone or with the help of a single workman, and who would find themselves without employment. The crisis would, for these, and also for the 25,116 persons employing each not more than ten workmen, prove even more distressing than for the workmen themselves, reducing many among them from a condition of independence to the necessity of themselves becoming workmen for wages.

It is a curious fact stated in the report, that the carriage builders, whose sales fell off in 1848, as compared with 1847, to the extent of 83, 86, and even 90 per cent., found some compensation in the increased demand which arose for military equipments, the amount of which was greater in 1848 than 1847 by 29 per cent. Among the persons engaged in several of the individual branches of industry comprised in the several groups, the suffering was much greater than would appear from the figures already given, while consequently others would escape with smaller injury. Of those comprehended in the "spinning and weaving group," the woolcombers experienced a loss of trade equal to 90 per cent., and pattern drawers, 80 per cent. The makers of sofas (*fauteuils*) and the like articles of luxury, suffered to the extent of 85 per cent. Wood-turners and makers of billiard-tables, suffered equally. Bronzists had a lessened demand, equal to 76 per cent.; and upholsterers found their sales diminished by 74 per cent. Goldbeaters suffered a diminution of 87 per cent., goldsmiths of 73 per cent., and jewellers 68 per cent. Printers and compositors suffered but little comparatively, their labour producing, in

1848, only 27 per cent. less than in 1847; for although the printing of larger works was, to a very great degree, suspended, there arose a good demand for their labour, in the printing of pamphlets and smaller works called for by the circumstances of the time. The effect of the crisis was further lessened by the degree in which the export trade was maintained, the value of goods thus sent through the Paris custom-house in 1848 having been smaller than that of the exports of 1847 by only  $11\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; and considering the great and sudden fall in the prices of all articles of French manufacture after the revolution, it is fair to assume that the quantity of goods thus exported in the later year, was at least as great as it had been in 1847.

The report gives various statements regarding the degree of instruction found among the workmen, their method of living and habits, upon many of which subjects I must forbear to enter, lest this abstract should extend itself to an inconvenient length. One of the most interesting of these matters is that relating to instruction. The Committee succeeded in ascertaining certain facts on this head, respecting 169,431 workmen, out of the total number of 204,925 employed, or 83 per cent. of the whole. Among these there were found 147,311, or 87 per cent., who could read and write, and 22,120 who were uninstructed. They give it as their opinion, that if they had succeeded in obtaining information on this head, respecting the the whole male population of Paris engaged in manufactures, the proportional result would have proved the same as that which they have ascertained. With some very trifling exceptions, they found that all workmen engaged in printing and employments connected therewith, all those employed by jewellers and gold and silver smiths, and those engaged in the production of articles to which the name of "Parisian Industry" is applied, are instructed. The uninstructed are mostly found among those employed in labour connected with the preparation of leather, turnery, and basket-work. Out of 86,617 women whose condition in this respect was ascertained, 68,219, or 79 per cent., were found able to read and write.

It speaks well for the personal respectability of the labouring population of Paris, that among 167,094 males and 87,204 females, with regard to whom answers in this respect were obtained, there were

	Males.	Females.
Living in apartments furnished by themselves ....	122,922	68,691
„ with parents or relations .....	4,200	12,141
„ with their employers .....	5,661	2,214
„ in furnished lodgings .....	34,311	4,158
	167,094	87,204

On the subject of holiday-making, it is said:—The voluntary holiday of Monday has, among the greater part of the occupations in Paris, the saddest effect upon the morality of the workpeople, and it is this which most generally deprives them of the means of making any saving. If Sunday is not observed by them as a day given to religion, it is at least regarded by the workman as a day to be spent with his family. He willingly gives up part of this day to industry, but in

the evening he walks abroad with his wife and children. He considers, however, that he has a right to another day devoted to his personal gratification. Monday is the day to be spent with his comrades, and it is then that his expenditure is the most lavish. The Monday holiday is the object of the most lively desire, and to acquire the means for its indulgence is often the greatest stimulus to industry. In the course of the inquiries made by the Committee, it often appeared that the men who received the largest wages are those whose savings are the smallest. Not only do they absent themselves from the workshop on Monday, but their absence is prolonged for two, three, or more days, until their resources for dissipation are exhausted; in which imprudent conduct they have but too many imitators in England and other countries.

## APPENDIX.

*Articles de Paris.*

Makers of Accordions	Straw Hat Cleaners and Preparers	"Necessaire"-makers (Dressing or Travelling Case-makers)
Whalebone Cutters or Splitters	Workers in Hair	Organ Builders
Toy-makers (Bimbeloterie)	Fan-makers	Parasol and Umbrella-makers
Horn, Bone, and Mother-o'-Pearl Button-makers	Wax Figure-makers	Perfumers
Metal and Stuff Button-makers	Artificial Flower-makers	Comb-makers
Makers of Fine Brushes	Sheath-makers	Piano and Harp-makers
Watch and Clock Dial-makers	Leather Glove-makers	Feather Sellers & Dressers
Cane and Whip-makers	Warm Glove-makers	Portfolio-makers, &c.
Makers of Paper Boxes	Clock-makers	"Tabletterie" (Makers of small wares, chiefly of wood, ivory, tortoise-shell, bone, and horn)
Straw Hat Finishers and Trimmers	Musical Instrument-makers—(String, Bow, and Wind) (Wood and Brass)	
	Spectacle Frame-makers	

*Rates of Wages Earned by Assistants in the undermentioned Trades.*

Trades.	Lowest.	Highest.	Average.	Average Weekly Earnings in English Money.
	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.	£ s. d.
Tailors .....	0·75	8·00	3·60	1 0 2
Butchers .....	1·00	7·00	3·50	0 19 7
Jewellers .....	1·00	15·00	5·67	1 11 9
Bakers .....	1·00	7·00	3·50	0 19 7
Shoe-makers .....	0·75	9·00	2·95	0 16 6
Carpenters and Joiners ....	2·50	8·00	4·89	1 7 4
Silversmiths .....	2·00	10·00	4·95	1 7 8
Lace-makers .....	....	....	1·90	0 10 7
Cabinet-makers .....	....	....	3·61	1 0 3
Masons .....	....	....	3·35	0 18 9
Locksmiths .....	....	....	3·83	1 1 5
Linen Garment-makers ....	2·25	5·50	3·36	0 18 10
Sugar Refiners .....	....	....	3·23	0 18 1



*Rates of Wages Earned by Assistants in the undermentioned Trades—*  
Continued.

	Lowest.	Highest.	Average.	Average Weekly Earnings in English Money.
	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.	£ s. d.
Curriers .....	1·58	10·00	4·22	1 3 7
Carpet-makers .....	....	....	4·32	1 4 2
Coach Builders .....	1·50	8·00	4·01	1 2 5
Confectioners .....	....	....	3·89	1 1 9
Bronzists .....	....	....	4·18	1 3 6
Hat-makers .....	1·50	12·00	4·25	1 3 10
House Painters .....	....	....	3·93	1 2 0
Sausage-makers, &c.....	....	....	....	....
Printers .....	1·50	15·00	4·43	1 4 10
Glove-makers .....	2·00	6·00	4·10	1 2 10
Milliners .....	2·50	4·50	3·62	1 0 3
Laundresses .....	0·50	3·50	2·19	0 12 3
Piano and Harp-makers ....	1·25	20·00	4·83	1 7 0
Artificial Flower-makers ...	2·00	6·00	3·77	1 1 1
Paper Hanging-makers.....	....	....	....	....

The most important among the branches of industry included in the foregoing table, as respects the number of persons engaged as employers or workpeople and the value of articles produced, are the following :—

	Numbers employed.		Total.	Value of Articles.
	Masters.	Workmen.		
	No.	No.	No.	£
Tailors .....	6,391	22,215	29,106	3,225,972
Butchers .....	500	1,429	1,929	2,995,737
Jewellers .....	485	4,939	5,424	2,435,553
Bakers .....	604	2,646	3,250	2,409,696
Shoe-makers .....	6,048	20,929	26,977	1,731,299
Carpenters and Joiners.....	1,133	11,679	12,812	1,723,835
Silversmiths .....	126	4,445	4,571	1,161,044
Lace-makers .....	992	9,494	10,486	1,136,198
Cabinet-makers.....	1,831	9,046	10,877	1,119,318
Masons .....	364	9,287	9,651	1,074,149
Locksmiths .....	1,077	7,496	8,573	1,064,576
Linen Garment-makers, &c.	1,966	10,190	12,156	1,062,148
Sugar Refiners .....	9	435	444	940,000
Curriers .....	271	2,460	2,731	936,996
Carpet-makers .....	476	3,920	4,396	826,528
Coach Builders .....	194	3,772	3,966	775,893
Confectioners, &c.....	440	2,355	2,795	740,692
Bronzists .....	188	2,711	2,899	739,760
Hat-makers .....	639	4,093	4,732	670,507
House Painters .....	866	5,571	6,437	645,380
Sausage-makers, &c.....	118	833	951	629,252
Printers .....	84	4,536	4,620	610,888
Glove-makers .....	182	1,950	2,132	570,730
Milliners .....	852	2,717	3,569	493,044
Washerwomen .....	4,847	8,763	13,610	482,408
Piano and Harp-makers ....	194	2,889	3,083	459,443
Artificial Flower-makers ...	618	1,979	2,597	442,227
Paper Hanging-makers.....	139	3,295	3,434	409,086

*Table shewing the Number of Persons, whether Employers or Employed, who were engaged in the various Branches of Industry prosecuted in the City of Paris, together with the Value, stated in English Money, of the various Articles produced by them in the Year 1847.*

Description of Industry.	EMPLOYERS.				EMPLOYED.			
	Employing more than 10 Persons.	Employing 2 to 10 Persons.	Employing 1 or no Workmen.	Total.	Adult Males.	Adult Females.	Male Children.	Female Children.
								Total Employed.
Preparation of Food .....	113	2,066	1,494	3,673	7,951	1,394	1,035	48
Building .....	873	2,300	888	4,061	40,083	135	1,367	18
Furnishing .....	856	2,605	2,252	5,713	28,745	3,845	3,484	110
Clothing (Garments for use) .....	1,739	8,547	18,930	29,216	30,274	54,398	674	4,718
Spinning and Weaving .....	698	1,244	1,857	3,799	11,028	21,874	2,627	1,156
Leather .....	102	233	91	426	4,241	234	98	....
Saddlery, Coach. and Harness-making .....	279	700	274	1,253	10,625	2,694	417	18
Chemicals and Earthenwares .....	212	460	587	1,259	6,572	2,727	392	46
Metals, Machinery, and Hardwares .....	545	1,469	1,090	3,104	22,081	1,269	1,510	34
Jewellery and Plate .....	432	1,081	879	2,392	10,835	3,739	1,883	362
Baskets and Turnery .....	85	785	691	1,561	4,021	632	716	36
Articles of Parisian Industry .....	833	2,510	2,781	6,124	17,583	15,540	1,485	1,071
Paper, Printing, and Engraving .....	350	1,116	769	2,235	10,886	4,410	1,175	234
Totals .....	7,117	25,116	32,583	64,816	204,925	112,891	16,863	7,851
								342,530

General Table of Wages paid to Adult Persons employed in different Branches of Industry.

Description of Property.	Number of different Traders.	MALES.						FEMALES.					
		Earning less than 3 Francs, or 2s. 4½d. Daily.	Earning from 3 to 5 Francs, or from 2s. 4½d. to 4s. Daily.	Earning more than 5 Francs, or 4s. Daily.	Paid by the Week, Month, or Year.	Sons or Relatives of the Employers.	Total.	Earning less than 60 Centimes, or 5½d. to 2s. 4½d. Daily.	Earning from 60 Centimes to 1 Franc, or from 5½d. to 1s. Daily.	Earning more than 1 Franc, or 1s. 2d. to 2s. 4½d. Daily.	Paid by the Week, Month, or Year.	Wives, Daughters, or Relatives of the Employers.	Total.
Preparation of food .....	17	236	1,485	57	6,137	36	7,951	...	458	...	890	46	1,394
Building .....	21	5,434	33,307	1,161	126	55	40,083	...	106	...	8	21	135
Furnishing .....	32	2,126	24,945	1,490	101	83	28,745	...	3,514	39	33	259	3,845
Clothing (Garments for use) ....	21	8,384	20,228	540	916	206	30,274	361	46,371	195	2,712	4,759	54,398
Spinning and Weaving .....	36	2,538	7,579	520	339	52	11,028	446	20,456	112	148	712	21,874
Leather .....	7	304	3,575	332	29	1	4,241	1	228	...	...	5	234
Coach, Saddlery, and Harness-making .....	14	1,339	8,709	473	78	26	10,625	77	2,545	2	6	64	2,694
Chemicals and Earthenwares ....	33	1,015	5,083	246	215	13	6,572	...	2,632	2	6	87	2,727
Metals, Machinery, & Hardwares	33	2,269	18,181	1,497	74	60	22,081	4	1,139	31	...	95	1,269
Plate and Jewellery .....	35	752	8,769	1,204	76	34	10,835	1	3,469	81	14	174	3,739
Baskets and Turnery .....	15	566	3,170	13	231	41	4,021	4	521	...	10	97	632
Articles of Parisian Industry ....	34	1,716	13,672	1,449	646	100	17,583	54	14,448	139	295	604	15,540
Paper, Printing, and Engraving	27	774	8,513	1,411	155	33	10,886	2	4,163	25	35	185	4,410
Totals .....	325	27,453	157,216	10,393	9,123	740	204,925	950	100,050	626	4,157	7,108	112,891

*Tabular View of the Industry of the several Arrondissements.*

Arrondissement.	Number of Employers.	Number of Workmen.	Total Number.	Value of Goods Produced.	Value Produced per Head.
				£	£ s.
1st	3,933	21,023	24,956	4,111,700	164 15
2nd	6,459	33,998	40,457	7,106,748	175 13
3rd	4,075	28,256	32,331	5,085,024	157 5
4th	4,181	16,861	21,042	2,894,016	137 10
5th	6,078	45,638	51,716	6,791,099	131 6
6th	10,324	57,988	68,312	9,407,145	137 14
7th	5,971	35,605	41,576	6,155,959	148 1
8th	7,456	43,543	50,999	7,006,559	137 7
9th	3,153	10,273	13,426	1,596,152	118 18
10th	4,134	15,962	20,096	2,828,872	140 15
11th	3,952	15,901	19,853	2,549,435	128 8
12th	5,100	17,482	22,582	3,012,425	133 8
	64,816	342,530	407,346	58,545,134	143 14

*On the Laws of the Currency in Ireland, as exemplified in the changes that have taken place in the Amount of Bank Notes in Circulation in Ireland, since the passing of the Act of 1845.* By J. W. GILBART, Esq., F.R.S.

[Read before the Statistical Section of the British Association, at Belfast, 2nd and 3rd September, 1852.]

#### No. I.

I CANNOT better explain what I mean by the Laws of the Currency in Ireland, than by making two extracts from an article on the Laws of the Currency, published in the "Foreign and Colonial Review," of April, 1844. This article was written by myself, and contains a summary of my own evidence on the subject before the Committee on Banks of Issue, in the year 1841 :—\*

"We will take the monthly returns of the circulation for the period that is past; that is, from September, 1833, to the end of 1843, and endeavour, by observing their various revolutions, to discover if they are governed by any fixed causes or principles—to ascertain if those principles are uniform in their operation; and if we should discover that the revolutions of the currency are regulated by any uniform principles, we shall call those principles the Laws of the Currency.

"From what we have already said of the laws of the currency, those of our readers who are acquainted with Ireland will be able to judge beforehand of the revolutions of her circulation. Being purely an agricultural country, the lowest points will of course be in August or September, immediately before the harvest and the commencement of the cattle and bacon-trade. Then it rises rapidly till it reaches its highest point in January, and then gradually declines. As an agri-

\* A summary of the evidence taken before the Committee has been published by Mr. G. M. Bell.—Longman.